



Docket No. JJM-346-CIP1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Szu-Min Lin and Paul Taylor Jacobs

Serial No. : 10/632,039 Art Unit:

Filed : July 31, 2003 Examiner:

For : INTEGRATED WASHING AND STERILIZATION PROCESS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

August 15, 2003  
(Date of Deposit)

Andrew C. Farmer  
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

[Signature]  
(Signature)

8/15/03  
(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this

information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

☒ In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

☐ In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with ☐ the first or ☐ second After Final Submission, therefore:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ / the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

☒ Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

☒ In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

☐ If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

☐ There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

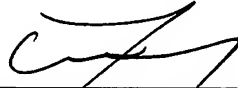
☐ The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

☐ Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

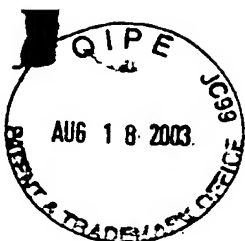
Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/JJM346-CIP1/ACF. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 2

**Application Number**

**Filing Date**

July 31, 2003

**First Named Inventor**

Szu-Min Lin

**Group Art Unit**

**Examiner Name**

**Attorney Docket Number**

JJM-346-CIP1

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		3,814,901		Morhack	06/04/1974	
		3,956,791		Rutten	05/18/1976	
		4,203,943		Gillis, et al.	05/20/1980	
		4,226,642		Baran	10/07/1980	
		4,235,642		Federighi et al.	11/25/1980	
		4,321,232		BitHELL	03/23/1982	
		4,337,223		Kaye	06/29/1982	
		4,380,530		Kaye	04/19/1983	
		4,414,037		Friedheim	11/08/1983	
		4,410,492		Kaye	10/18/1983	
		4,526,622		Takamura et al.	07/02/1985	
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		4,527,843		Murdoch	07/09/1985	
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		4,576,792		Martensson	03/18/1986	
		4,579,597		Sasa, et al.	04/01/1986	
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		4,643,876		Jacobs et al.	02/17/1987	
		4,710,233		Hohmann et al.	12/01/1987	
		4,731,222		Kralovic et al.	03/15/1988	
		4,744,951		Cummings, et al.	05/17/1988	
		4,756,882		Jacobs, et al.	07/12/1988	
		4,892,706		Kralovic et al.	01/09/1990	
		4,937,046		Andersen, et al.	06/26/1990	
		4,943,414		Jacobs, et al.	07/24/1990	
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	5,032,186		Childers et al.	07/16/1991	
	5,037,623		Schneider et al.	08/06/1991	
	5,077,008		Kralovic et al.	12/31/1991	
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	5,176,884		Taschner et al.	01/05/1993	
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	5,260,021		Zeletznic	11/09/1993	
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	6,203,756		Lin et al.	03/20/2001	
	6,495,100		Lin et al	12/17/2002	

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	KindCode <sup>5</sup>				
		GB	2 248 188	A	Parker et al.	04/01/1992		
		EP	0 302 419	B1	Jacobs et al.	09/23/1992		
		DE	3416743	A1	Griesat	01/13/1984		
		WO	97/24147	A1	Langford et al.	07/10/1997		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. <sup>6</sup> 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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